

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presented amended, is respectfully requested.

By the present Preliminary Amendment the claims are amended without prejudice to no longer recite any multiple dependencies.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

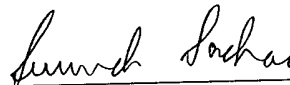
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**22850**

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